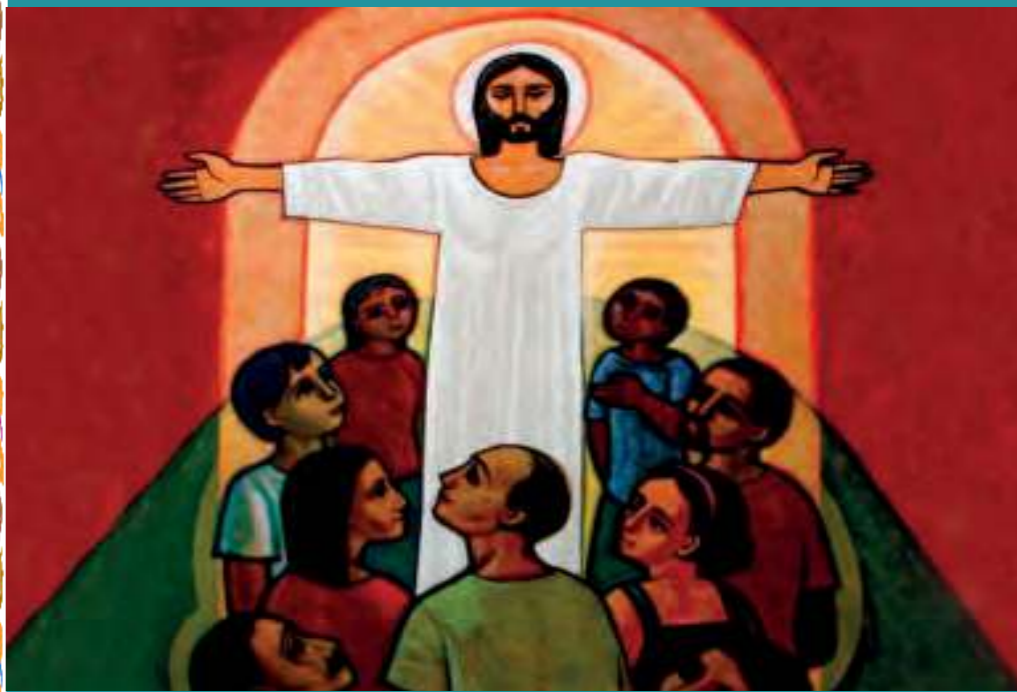




# focus on sunday

The gospel of Christ will often force difficult decisions in our lives. The gospel offers a fullness of life which in turn offers us joy and a meaning of life which promises a hope and love that is eternal.



A bit of criticism again from Jesus of the scribes and the Pharisees. Not a judgment about them personally but about their religion not going deep enough, and the fact that they didn't seem to notice that. They seemed happy to keep the law even when it might become a huge burden to others. They never investigated the reason why people did religious things.

There is 'true religion' and 'false religion'. False religion has been used to promote war and violence over the centuries, and in fact still does so in many countries. Religion and Christianity have been used to violate the dignity and rights of many groups of people like the single parent, LGBT men and women and others over the years. True religion is the religion of the heart, rooted in compassion for all God's creation. Any religious practice like living by rules, participating in worship and our relationship with God is to come from the heart and from the desire only to do what God wants and give God first place in our lives.

The 'righteousness' of the people of Jesus's time sometimes came from the desire for power over others. True religion is humble and sees everyone as an equal child of God unlike the false religion, including clericalism, which puts traditionalism and its practices above compassion. This year we should strive to think synodally – to help develop a listening church which is open to the views of others.

As Pope Francis puts it:  
"Let us not soundproof our hearts; let us not remain barricaded in our certainties... so often our certainties can make us closed. Let us listen to one another"

Lord, may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
*Donal Neary SJ (Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger)*

## Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Jesus tells us that the Law of Love, is better than the love of law. Laws are important, but not complete, without the heart of love. I can read books, and know about Love, but loving means kindness, putting others first, caring, saying thanks, offering help. The Holy Spirit helps to make our knowing into loving. No matter how much I think I'm right, it's good to say, but I may be wrong.



## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters, .....  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. Through Christ our Lord.

## AFTER THE CONSECRATION

*The mystery of faith.*  
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. Through Christ our Lord.

## CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Go in peace, Thanks be to God.

the kingdom of heaven.  
*'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.*

*'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court;\** if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

*\*\*You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.\** If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

*'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.*

*\*\*Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all,\** either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. *\*All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.\**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS. 118:1-2.4-5.17-18.33-34

*R. They are happy who follow God's law!*

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!  
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R)
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.  
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.  
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.  
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R)

## SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 2: 6 - 10

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

**The word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL Matthew 5: 17 - 37

*( or \*5:20-22.27-28.33-34.37) (Shorter form in italics)*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.* Jesus said to his disciples: Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

## GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father:  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

## THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## OPENING PRAYER

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

*A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.* If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

**The word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God.*

# New Ross Parish, Church of St. Mary & St. Michael

Parish Office Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10.30am to 2.00pm. Closed Holy Days & Bank Holidays. Wide range in stock of Mass Cards, General Cards & Gift Ideas for all occasions. Mass Cards are also available in Nugent's Newsagents, Cooney's & Ryan's Funeral Homes.

Parish Office  
051 421 348  
Priest on Duty  
051 421214 (24 Hr)



Parish Mobile  
087 1212 707  
(Text Alert Only)



www.  
newrossparish.ie



info@  
newrossparish.ie



Visit us on  
Facebook/New  
Ross Parish

Volume 38. No. 7

Radio Mass 104.7Fm & LIVE STREAM ON PARISH WEBSITE.  
All 8.00am Masses are in Mount Carmel Monastery Chapel



Date	Time		
Sat 11th Feb - World Day of the Sick	5.00pm	Michael Farrell, Camblin & his granddaughter, Ruth	Anniversaries
Sun 12th Feb	8.00am	May McLoughlin, Crumlin Road, Dublin	Remembrance
	9.00am	Sr. Assumpta Ryan, Sisters of Mercy & Margaret Ryan, Castlemoyle	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Patsy Brambley, The Bosheen	Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Mary Eliza Whitty, Camblin	Months Mind
Mon 13th Feb	8.00am	Maurice Foley & deceased members of the Foley & Brennan Families, New Ross & Castlecomer, Kilkenny	Anniversaries & Remembrance
	10.00am	Margaret & Thomas Kielthy & deceased family members, Michael Street	Anniversaries
Tues 14th Feb	8.00am	Johnny Sinnott, Chapel Lane	Anniversary
	10.00am	Geraldine Foley & her brother Thomas, Charleton Hill	Anniversaries
	10.00am - 8.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
Wed 15th Feb	8.00am	People of the Parish	
	10.00am	Edward & Etta O'Neill, Abbey View	Anniversaries
Thurs 16th Feb	8.00am	Breda & Ned Sinnott, Rosbercon	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Mary & Brian Fortune, Shanbough	Anniversaries
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Fri 17th Feb	8.00am	Carmelites deceased & benefactors	Remembrance
	10.00am	Mary Cashin, JKL Place	Anniversary
Sat 18th Feb	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** We pray for the souls of Roger Wickenheiser, USA, Tom Doyle, Charleton Hill, James Whelan, Springpark & late of Ryleen, Jack Connors, Tinnakilly, Rosbercon & John Walsh, Nunnery Lane, who has passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We remember & pray for the souls of Larry & Josie Murray, their Son Sean & daughter Mary Foley & Regina Laffan (3rd Anniversary), McMurrugh Court, who's anniversaries occurs around this time.

**BAPTISMS:** Maximum of two candidates per Baptism. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to book your child's baptism. Minimum two weeks notice required. Copy of Birth Certificate is required for the candidate. Photo ID is also required for the person making / requesting the booking.

Should you wish to have a loved one included in this section, please contact the Parish Office with the details by the previous Wednesday before 2.00pm.

### 2023 DIVINE MERCY NATIONAL CONFERENCE:

Friday 17th, Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th February 2023. "Act justly, Love mercifully and Walk humbly with your God." The Divine Mercy Conference will be available Free on www.divinemercyconference.com or churchservices.tv or via audio-only on www.RadioMaria.ie or Saorview 210 or dial up listening service at 01 4373277. Bus to Divine Mercy Conference in RDS, Dublin on Saturday 18th February. To book a seat ring John 086 2608454



### Sanctuary Lamps Intentions:

Available @ €10.00 per week.  
Commencing Saturday @ 10.00am.

**Our Lady's (Left):**  
Michael Foley - RIP  
**Altar (Centre):**  
Billy Foley - RIP  
**St. Joseph's (Right):**  
Bridie Foley - RIP

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

"God our Father, we trust in your loving kindness. Bless our Diocese of Ferns with many priestly and religious vocations. Give the men and women you call the light to understand Your gift and the love to follow always in the footsteps of your Son. Amen."



**Wednesday 22nd February 2023:** Ash Wednesday, ashes will be disturbed at all masses. Ashes ONLY @ 7.00pm.

**Wednesday 8th March 2023:** Mr. Ring, Ms. Deevy & Ms. Kavanagh's Confirmation Class Preparation meeting in Parish Church @ 7.00pm.

**Saturday's 11th March 2023:** Mr. Ring, Ms. Deevy & Ms. Kavanagh's Class Confirmations @ 11.00am, 12.00 Noon & 1.00pm.

**Friday 17th March 2023:** St. Patrick's Day. Vigil Mass @ 5.00pm Thursday the 16th of March in Parish Church. Masses @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 9.00am, 10.00am & 12.00 Noon in Parish Church Friday 17th March. Parish Office Closed.

**Wednesday 22nd March 2023:** Ms. Lynch & Ms. Cooney's Confirmation Class Preparation meeting in Parish Church @ 7.00pm.

**Saturday's 25th March 2023:** Ms. Lynch & Ms. Cooney's Class Confirmations @ 11.00am & 12.00 Noon.

**Wednesday 29th March 2023:** Ms. O'Connor & Ms. O'Shea Classes First Confession @ 7.00pm in Parish Church.

**Thursday 30th March 2023:** Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms. O'Neill & Ms. Mears Classes First Confession @ 7.00pm in Parish Church.

**Sunday 2nd April 2023:** Palm Sunday.

**Monday 3rd April 2023:** Penitential Service @ 7.00pm

**Thursday 6th April 2023:** Holy Thursday Mass of the Lords Supper @ 7.00pm in Mount Carmel & the Parish Church.

**Friday 7th April 2023:** Good Friday Ceremonies of the Last Supper @ 3.00pm in Mount Camel & Parish Church. Parish Office Closed.

### PARISH INFORMATION.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—NEW ROSS:** 085 8313073

**Radio & Live Stream Mass:** 104.7FM & New Ross Parish Website Live Stream, for all Masses including Funeral Masses excluding 8.00am in Mount Carmel Monastery Chapel.

**Mass Bookings:** We are taking Mass Bookings up to and including July 2023.

**Next Weeks Readings:** SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Lev 19:1-2, 17-18. Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13, R/ v 8. 1 Cor 3:16-23. Mt 5:38-48.

**Confessions:** Saturdays after 10.00am Mass & before vigil Mass. Mon — Fri on request after 10.00am Mass. Please notify the priest before Mass in the Sacristy.

**Meals on Wheels:** Avail of our high quality meals available five days a week. To order just call 051-445711, St. Aidan Centre, Cross St.

**Safeguarding Representative:** Mairin Jackson - Contact No: (051) 421348 - For any queries in relation to working with children or adolescence within our parish please contact the above.

**Bethany Bereavement Support:** If you need support please ring 087 3846577. Drop in Centre in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre on the first Thursday of every month @ 11.00am.

**Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish:** Collections 5th February 2023 @ € 2,204.69 (Envelopes No. 188 & 2nd Collection combined). You can donate via The Ferns Diocesan Website (www.ferns.ie) by clicking the big pink button. Should you wish to become a regular Parish Contributor, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for the support. **Please make all cheques payable to St. Mary & St. Michael Parish Church New Ross.**

**St. Michael's Pastoral Centre:** Available for Parish based activities, please contact the Parish office.

**Intentions for the living:** Intentions for the living will be announced as "Special Intentions" unless the person who the intention is for signs the GDPR Regulation Slip. Please advise at time of booking.

**Certificate Requests:** Request forms are available from the Parish Office. Certificate fees at €5.00 each. Photographic ID is required for the candidate including Photographic ID for the person who has been authorised by you to collect it. Collection on Fridays only.

**PRIEST ON DUTY (051) 421214:** We are anxious to visit those who cannot celebrate Mass with us due to illness, aged or infirm. Arrangements can be made to receive the sacraments at home on the first Friday of every month by calling the Parish Office.

**Lectio Divina:** Every Wednesday morning at 10.45am for one hour in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre.

**Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Tuesday evening @ 7.30pm in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre. Contact: Alex Doyle, Tel: 087 273 8703.

**Radio Maria Ireland:** Radio Maria Ireland is an Irish run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, uplifting music, Talks, interviews and Testimonies - all Commercial free-Listen via Free App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND", streaming on www.radiomaria.ie or via. PHONE - get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply). Please join our growing faith Family!

**Irish Catholic Newspaper:** Available in the Parish Office @ € 2.50 each

**Church Carpark:** In the interest of safety we request Parking to take place in designated areas ONLY.

"Pro Life Wexford info meeting, entitled, 'Protecting the vulnerable from the threat of legalised Euthanasia'. Wednesday 15th February at The Legion of Mary House, Convent road, Enniscorthy at 7:30pm. All welcome!

### CHY's Tax Forms

Thankyou to anyone who has already returned your CHY forms to the Parish Office to date. For those who haven't, we would be most grateful if you could do so as soon as possible. If you are not eligible for tax please sign the bottom of the letter you received and return.



Large Selection of  
Communion Gifts  
& Confirmation Gifts  
just in.  
Please contact the Parish  
Office.



### NEW ROSS PARISH— Bun Scoil Ris

#### Confirmation 2023

	Mr. Ring	Ms. Deevy	Ms. Kavanagh	Ms. Lynch	Ms. Cooney
Preparation Meeting @ 7.00pm	Wednesday 8th March			Wednesday 22nd March	
Confirmation Date	Saturday 11th March			Saturday 25th March	
Confirmation Time	11.00am	12.00 Noon	1.00pm	11.00am	12.00 Noon



### NEW ROSS PARISH—Bunscoil Nic Amhlaidh

#### Communion 2023

	Ms. O'Connor	Ms. O'Shea	Ms. Fitzpatrick & Ms. O'Neill	Ms. Mears
First Confessions @ 7.00pm	Wednesday 29th March		Thursday 30th March	
Preparation Meeting @ 7.00pm	Wednesday 17th May		Wednesday 24th May	
Communion Date	Saturday 20th May		Saturday 27th May	
Communion Time	11.00am	1.00pm	11.00am	1.00pm

### DIOCESE OF FERNS



## WORLD YOUTH DAY

Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sun 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

### World Youth Day Gathering with Pope Francis

OPEN TO ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 35  
MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS BY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2023

ONLY 30 PLACES AVAILABLE  
ALLOTTED ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS  
COST €650

The price includes:

- Return Flights from Dublin to Lisbon, August 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
  - Transfer in Lisbon Airport to hotel and return transfer for departure.
  - 2 nights B & B accommodation in a city centre hotel in Lisbon.
  - Meals (lunch and dinner) provided by the WYD Organising Committee
  - World Youth Day Package with Insurance, Free Public Transport
  - Pilgrim pack.
- Parishes may be in a position to partially fund the cost of the trip. Please enquire with your Parish Priest.  
Registration form must be returned fully completed along with €100 non-refundable deposit and a picture/copy of your Passport Details Page, in order to secure your place

To enquire please contact:  
Ferns WYD Pilgrimage Director: Fr Brian Whelan  
FernsWYD@gmail.com 053-9428163

New Ross Parish Community strives to be a welcoming, life-giving PEOPLE, nourished by FAITH, WORSHIP of God and SERVICE of all in the example of Jesus Christ.